

Director's Message

Dear Members and Friends of the China Institute,

Welcome to the Year of the Dragon and another issue of our newsletter, which you can now view online with more stories and photos at our newly developed website: www.csun.edu/china_institute/. The Year of the Rabbit witnessed rapid changes in the world, phenomenal development in China, and fruitful exchanges between CSUN and China. First of all, the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE), the international arm of the Chinese National Ministry of



Education and an MOU partner with CSUN since 2002, began to collaborate with CSUN China Institute and the Dept. of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies in the training of educational administrators and teachers for the ambitious 10-year education development plan in China. Three large groups of school principals and education bureaus directors came to CSUN in the spring and fall semesters of 2011 for workshops on American educational reform and for field visits to representative schools in the L.A. area. In the spring of 2012, CEAIE will send two large Chinese teachers delegations to participate in workshops at CSUN on American education theories and teaching methods in major disciplines. In connection with these training programs, the China Institute and the Dept. of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies also hosted five highly energetic school principals from Shanghai Yangpu District, who attended workshops at CSUN and shadowed educational administrators extensively

at Vaughn Next Century Learning Center and the Valley Academy of the Arts.



Dr. Justine Su, Director of China Institute

Meanwhile, we continue to host visiting scholars, exchange students, and sister university delegations at CSUN, and the Chinese student population has grown to be the largest of all international students at CSUN and in the U.S. We have signed new MOUs with Xi'an Polytechnic University and Nanjing University of the Arts, and are developing a new MOU with Hubei University of Medicine, which has sent two large hospital administrators delegations to CSUN for training in 2011 and two visiting scholars to CSUN to develop joint programs in health administration and nursing. In addition to the 2+2 programs with our sister universities in China in finance, engineering, health administration, and graphic art, we are now developing a dual master degree program in educational leadership and a 3+1+1 undergraduate/graduate program in music, both with Shanghai Normal University.

CSUN students, faculty and administrators continue to visit China on exchange and friendship missions. In May and June of 2011, CSUN Women's Chorale led by Dr. Katherine Baker visited and staged joint concerts with Chinese student performers at Peking University, University of International Finance and Economics,



China Institute Executive Committee

Nanjing University of Science and Technology, Nanjing University of the Arts, Nanjing Hohai University, Zhejiang Vocational Arts Academy, and Shanghai Normal University. They also climbed the Great Wall, toured the Forbidden City, posed on the newest broadcasting stage at the Shanghai TV Station, and visited many other scenic sightseeing spots in Beijing, Nanjing, Hangzhou and Shanghai. The Women's Chorale demonstrated the spirit of the CSUN Matadors, spread good will everywhere they went, and strengthened friendships between young artists and students in the U.S. and China. Almost at the same time in the summer of 2011, Dr. Dmitry Rachmanov, Chair of CSUN's Piano Performance Program, went on an extensive concert tour in China and received thunderous applause for his exceptional artistry and deeply convincing performances in Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Wuhan, and Shanghai. Also in the summer, several students from our theatre program were offered full scholarships to attend Chinese opera workshops at Shanghai Theatre Academy, another one of CSUN's sister universities in China.

Later in the year, Dr. Robert Gustafson, Director of CSUN Entertainment Industry Institute, visited Shanghai Media Group (SMG) and initiated a joint TV production project between SMG and CBS, an endeavor that will further unfold with exciting highlights later this year. Dr. Mingfang Li, Dr. Zhong-Guo Zhou, Dr. Richard Horowitz, Dr. Bronte Reynolds, Prof. Niku Kashaf, Director Lih Wu, Dr. Victor Shaw, Dr. Cao Wei, Dr. Meiqin Wang and Dr. Yifei Sun also visited China last year to attend conferences and to develop joint projects with Chinese scholars. Finally, towards the end of 2011, the CSUN IT Delegation consisting of Vice President of Information Technology, Hilary Baker, Associate Vice President Ben Guillian and Senior Director David Levin visited Shanghai Normal University, following an extended visit to CSUN last spring by Qu Xueping from the SNU IT Department. The CSUN IT leaders visited SNU's IT services and network, made presentations on CSUN's IT system, and signed a special addendum for collaboration in IT area to the longstanding MOU between the two universities.

In the spring of 2011, the CSUN Art Department, in collaboration with the China Institute and Chinese Student Association, hosted a Chinese art exhibition, "Hello Tibet," which featured photography art works by Prof. Guo Gensheng and his graduate students at Shandong Normal University. Then, in the fall of 2011, Professor

Meiqin Wang organized and hosted an extraordinary art event, "Tales of Our Times-Two Contemporary Artists from China," which consisted of art exhibitions, lectures by Chinese artists, and presentations for the local Chinese American community. Also in the fall, Professor Yifei Sun of Geography Dept. organized a workshop on "Chinese Ways of Innovation" at CSUN, supported by the US National Science Foundation, which attracted scholars from Mainland China, Taiwan, U.K. and U.S. for discussions and presentations on the characteristics of Chinese models of innovation.

This year, more CSUN students have been awarded prestigious China Council Scholarships to study in China - Mathew Myers is continuing a masters degree program in International Development and Public Administration at Tsinghua University in Beijing; Michelle Lao is having a rich and colorful experience at Central China Normal University where Dale Chang is enjoying his second year of scholarship study in Chinese history; Justin Shenkarow is studying Chinese language and absorbing all the vibrant energy at Shanghai University; and Won Gi Lee is studying and performing in Chinese drama at Zhejiang Normal University in the fascinating city of Hangzhou. For all of these students, studying in China under the China Council full scholarships is an eye-opening, life-altering, and the best learning experience of their lives.



Vice President Xi Jinping speaks to Chinese scholars in L.A

When Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping visited the U.S. early this year, he set the stage to build deeper and broader cultural exchange and educational cooperation between the U.S. and China, especially among young people. This year marks the 4709th year in the Chinese lunar calendar and is the Year of the Water Dragon. The dragon symbolizes power and auspiciousness, and will bring us the passion and energy for all sorts of grandiose and daring projects. We are expecting to have a new China Studies track within the Liberal Studies major at CSUN. We anticipate that more and more CSUN students will become interested in China and studying in China in the coming years, and more and more Chinese scholars and students will come to CSUN to fulfill their dreams. The mighty dragon will stimulate us to think and act big, while the benevolent dragon will bring good fortune and happiness to all.

Dr. Justine Su
Director of China Institute

Arts, Music, and Cultural Activities

1. "Hello, Tibet" Art Photography Exhibition by Prof. Guo Gensheng and his graduate students, March, 2011
2. Chinese New Year's Banquet and Performance, March, 2011
3. Chinese Cultural Night, with Chinese Students Association, March, 2011
4. CSUN University Women's Chorale's visit and performances in Peking University, University of International Finance and Economics, Nanjing Univ. of Science & Technology, Nanjing Univ. of the Arts, Hohai University, Zhejiang Vocational Arts Academy, Shanghai Normal University, summer, 2011
5. Prof. Dmitry Rachmanov performs in Wuhan, Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Shanghai, and staged master class and recital for Shanghai Normal Univ. Music College and Zhejiang Vocational Arts Academy, summer, 2011
6. Chinese Students Association Singing Contest, Sept., 2011.
7. Contemporary Chinese Art Exhibitions, Sept.-Oct., 2011
8. For International Education Week, Chinese Piano Music Recital, by Prof. Duan Ying, Shanghai Normal University Music College, November, 2011
9. For International Education Week, "Changes in Chinese Higher Education Examination," by Gensheng Guo, Shandong Normal University, Nov., 2011.
10. For International Education Week, "CSUN Women's Chorale in China," by Dr. Katherine Baker, Nov. 2011.
11. Magical Musicians Piano Concert, by Ying Duan, Dmitry Rachmanov & Maria Shcherbakova, January 2012.



CSUN student at Chinese Opera Workshop in Shanghai



President Koester and CSUN faculty with Chinese artist Weng Fen



Dr. Johnson and CSUN faculty with Chinese students & Scholars at the banquet



Hello Tibet Exhibition opens at CSUN

Come hear and see for yourself as **Ying Duan** plays to our hearts' delight on January 13th. This remarkable young pianist began her exceptional career at the age of seven in China and currently teaches at Shanghai Normal University. As an active recitalist, Ying has presented several piano and organ concerts and frequented masters' activities and performance tours all over the world. Her performance is characterized by and appreciated for her sincere and guileless style, exquisite comprehension and lucid interpretation.

Magical Musicians

Friday Evening
January 13, 2012
7:30 pm

Tickets:
Adults \$20.00
Students \$7.00

In addition to her solo presentation, Ying will be joined two other outstanding pianists for a truly stellar performance. These four and even six-hand ensembles will certainly dazzle our eyes and our ears!

We welcome Dmitry Rachmanov, Professor of Piano at CSUN and Maria Shcherbakova from Moscow.

NUMC
Northridge United Methodist Church • 9650 Reseda Blvd • Northridge, CA 91325
For more information and ticket purchases please call 818 886-1555 or visit our website www.numc.org

Prof. Duan Ying's piano concert



Theatre Manager Bill Taylor Received Award at the Banquet



Prof. Guo's Art Exhibition on Tibet at CSUN

CSUN Scholars and Students' Visits to China



CSUN Women's Chorale at Tian An Men in Beijing

1. Dr. Victor Shaw of Dept. of Sociology visited China to offer lectures and attend conferences, 2011
2. Dr. Yifei Sun of Geography Department visited China to conduct research and attend conferences, 2011
3. Dr. Bronte Reynolds of the Dept. of Educational Leadership taught at East China Normal Univ. and explored joint master degree program with Shanghai Normal University, spring, 2011
4. Dr. Justine Su visited Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, and Nanjing with CSUN Women's Chorale to facilitate their joint concerts in seven Chinese universities. She also visited Wuhan to develop new relationships and collaboration at Hubei Univ. of Medicine and Central China Normal University, May and June, 2011.
5. Dr. Zhong-Guo Zhou of the Dept. of Finance attended international conference in Wuhan and explored collaborative projects at Central China Normal Univ., 2011
6. Prof. Mingfang Li visited China multiple times to lecture and develop collaborative projects in Jilin, Hangzhou and Beijing, 2011
7. Prof. Niku Kashef, Dept. of Art, visited Shandong Normal University to lecture on photography to faculty and students, July, 2011
8. Professor Katherine Baker and Dr. Justine Su took CSUN Women's Chorale to China to visit and perform in seven Chinese universities: Peking Univ., Univ. of International Business and Economics, Nanjing Univ. of Science and Technology, Nanjing Arts University, Nanjing Hohai University, Zhejiang Vocational Arts Academy, and Shanghai Normal University, May and June, 2011. They were enthusiastically received everywhere and reported by CCTV, Nanjing TV, and Shanghai TV stations, summer, 2011.
9. Professor Dmitry Rachmanov of piano performance had another successful concert tour in China – playing in major concert halls in Shengzhen, Wuhan, Guangzhou, and Shanghai. He also staged recitals and offered master classes at Shanghai Normal University Music College, summer, 2011.
10. Prof. Meiqin Wang conducted field research on contemporary Chinese art, in preparation for a major art show at CSUN, summer, 2011.

11. Four students from Dept. of Theatre received full scholarships to study Chinese opera at Shanghai Theatre Academy, summer, 2011.
12. Lih Wu, Director of International Programs and Business Operations at the Tseng College of Extended Learning went to China for visits to our sister universities in Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing, Hangzhou, and explore collaboration projects, summer, 2011.
13. Prof. Wei Cao of Family and Consumer Sciences visited Wuhan, Xi'an, and Beijing to attend international conferences and explore collaborative projects, summer, 2011
14. Prof. Wei Cao of Family and Consumer Sciences attends international conference in Shanghai, Sept., 2011.
15. Prof. Mingfang Li attended international conferences in China, Sept. 2011
16. CSUN IT Delegation headed by Vice President Hilary Baker and consisted of Associate Vice President Benjamin Guillian and Senior Director David Levin visited Shanghai Normal University and signed formal MOU for collaboration between IT staff on both sides, November, 2011.
17. Dr. Robert Gustafson visited Shanghai to develop joint projects for Shanghai Media Group with American TV stations, fall, 2011.
18. Prof. Zhong-Guo Zhou lectured and developed joint programs at Shanghai Normal Univ. Finance College, winter, 2011.



Dean Fan of UIFE in Beijing welcomes CSUN delegation



Peking Univ.-CSUN Joint Concert 2011



CSUN students at Shanghai TV Station



Dr. Su meet with Chinese National Ministry of Education leaders in Beijing



Dr. Su with HUM president and nursing students leaders



Dr. Su met with President Tu and other leaders at Hubei Univ. of Medicine



CSUN and Nanjing Univ. of Arts signs new MOU



CSUN Women's Chorale successfully performs at SNU



Dean Zang welcomes Dr. Su to Central China Normal Univ. Music College

Chinese Education Delegations to CSUN



Dr. Mingfang Li hosts Dean Fan & other Chinese scholars



Hubei Univ. of Medicine delegation visits hospital



Director Sun of Nanjing Univ. of Science & Technology visits CSUN



Associate Dean Cabello welcomes Chinese principals delegation



Ms. Qu shows SNU IT System to Vice President Baker's leadership team



Dr. Johnson welcomes Dean Li Cong of SNU Music College to CSUN

1. Chinese Education Administrator Delegation, Jan. 2011
2. Shanghai Normal University Music College Dean's Delegation, Feb., 2011
3. East China Normal University Delegation, April, 2011
4. Shanghai Normal University Univ. Press Delegation, April, 2011
5. China Education Association for International Exchange Delegation, April, 2011
6. Zhejiang Univ. of Finance and Economics Delegation, May, 2011
7. Shanghai Normal University Vice President Delegation, May, 2011
8. Zhejiang School Teachers and Students Delegation, July, 2011
9. Nanjing University of Science and Technology Delegation, June, 2011
10. Shanghai Chongming County Education Bureau Delegation, June, 2011
11. Hubei Univ. of Medicine Delegations, September, 2011
12. Wuhan Foreign Language School Delegation, Sept. 2011
13. Jilin University EMBA Delegation, October, 2011
14. Chinese Land Use Resource Delegation, December, 2011
15. China Education Association for International Exchange Delegation, Dec, 2011
16. China Educational Administrators Delegation, December, 2011
17. Wuhan Experimental Foreign Language School Delegation, Jan., 2012
18. Central Conservatory of China student delegation, Jan., 2012
19. Chinese Teachers Delegation from the Rural Areas, Feb., 2012
20. Hubei Higher Education Publicity Directors Delegation, Feb., 2012

Chinese Scholars and Exchange Students Studying at CSUN (2010-2011)



Lisa Clotfelter hosts Chinese students on New Year's Day



Chinese scholars attend Thanksgiving luncheon at IESC



Prof. Sheng Yuan performs at CSUN



Dr. Baker and SNU's Lu Yao receive awards at PBD banquet



Chinese scholars visit Reagan Presidential Library

1. Zhou Jingren, Shanghai Normal University
2. Yao Lu (2+2, art), Shanghai Normal University
3. Yan Yan (2+2, art), Shanghai Normal University
4. Zuo Fangting (2+2, art), Shanghai Normal University
5. Zhu Kaiwei (2+2, art), Shanghai Normal University
6. Zhou Jun(2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
7. Liu Chao, Qingdao, Shandong
8. Li Wang (2+2, health science), Guangzhou Medical University
9. Shanshan Qu (2+2, health science) Guangzhou Medical University
10. Ni Wen Rong (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
11. Ye Zhi (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
12. Guo Ge Yi (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
13. Wang Liang (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
14. Hu Han Bing (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
15. Zheng Zhenling, Shanghai Normal University
16. Cao Chenyi, Shanghai Normal University
17. Ji Yunhui, Shanghai Normal University
18. Livia Li, Shanghai Normal University
19. Bi Xuanjin, Shanghai Normal University
20. Huang Shuo, Tianjin Business College
21. Airong Lu, Shanghai_Yew Wah Education Management Co., Ltd
22. Shan Yi (2+2, engineering), Shanghai Normal University
23. Jin Yan (2+2, engineering), Shanghai Normal University
24. Li Ya (2+2, engineering), Shanghai Normal University
25. Amy Siqin Cai (2+2, engineering), Shanghai Normal University
26. Sun Yun (2+2, engineering), Shanghai Normal University
27. Su Xing (2+2, engineering), Shanghai Normal University
28. Xi Zhang, Nanjing Institute of Astronomical Optics & Technology
29. Jiaying Ji, Victoria (2+2, health science), Guangzhou Medical Univ.
30. Jiayun Guo, Karen (2+2, health science), Guangzhou Medical Univ.
31. Mengning Chen, Carrie (2+2, health science), Guangzhou Medical Univ.

32. Siqi Wu (吴司琪2+2, health science), Guangzhou Medical University
33. Yu Liu(刘煜2+2, health science), Guangzhou Medical University
34. Hejun Wu (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
35. Suning Jiang (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
36. Juexiao Guo (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
37. Caoyuan Xie (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
38. Xu Mengbo, Jilin University
39. Meng Xuanyu, Jilin University
40. Chen Dan, Jilin University
41. Jing Tao, Jilin University
42. Fei Yupeng, Jilin University
43. Meng Hongmei, Jilin University
44. ZHU Xiumei, Jilin University
45. Miao Qing, Jilin University
46. Kun Li, Jilin University
47. Fan Libo, Chinese University of International Finance and Economics
48. Jin Li, Xiangtan University
49. Guo Gensheng, Shandong Normal University
50. Su Liu, Southeast University, Nanjing
51. Gong Shoushu, Chinese Academy of Sciences
52. Zhang Xu, Tsinghua University
53. Qu Xueping, Shanghai Normal University
54. Tian Li, Shanghai Normal University
55. Ye Ying, Shanghai Normal University
56. Duan Ying, Shanghai Normal University
57. Shiyun Zheng (2011-12 exchange student), Shanghai Normal University
58. Chijie Zhang (2011-12 exchange student), Shanghai Normal University
59. 陈昊旻 Haoyang Chen(2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
60. 金桑 Shang Jing (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
61. 余希文 Xiwen Yu (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
62. Ren Jin (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
63. You Geyang (2+2, finance), Shanghai Normal University
64. Jiafan Xia, Shanghai Normal University
65. Chai Yun, Hubei Univ. of Medicine
66. Cheng Li, Hubei University of Medicine
67. Zhang Ying, Xi'an Dianzhi University
68. Xu Lifan, Nanjing University of Science and Technology
69. Wu Xuezhong, East China Normal University
70. Xin Cai, Jimei University, Xiamen
71. Lu Weizhong, Vice Principal, High School Affiliated with USST, Shanghai
72. Ding Limin, Principal, Primary of School Affiliated to USST, Shanghai
73. Zhang Chaohui, Vice Principal, Kongjiang Senior High School, Shanghai
74. Zeng Guoguang, Vice Principal, Kongjiang Senior High School
75. Li Dan, Principal, Shanghai Benxi Road Kindergarten
76. Wang Xia 王霞, East China Normal University
77. Zhou Ang, Jining University
78. Lou Fang, Shanghai Univ. of Finance and Economics
79. Gu Xiuli, Zhejiang University of Technology
80. Xiao Wei, Beijing University of Science & Technology
81. Li Zi, Qinghua University, Beijing
82. Sun Yi, Qinghua University, Beijing
83. Zhang Xu, Qinghua University, Beijing
84. Zhao Yi, Qinghua University, Beijing
85. Liu Jing, Xi'an Polytechnic University
86. Liang Feng, Wuhan University
87. Zhang Liyin, Wuhan University
88. Xie Juan, Hua Zhong Univ. of Science and Technology
89. Huang Tierong, Xi'an Foreign Language University
- (Plus more than three hundred Chinese students in degree programs and IEP)

CSUN Mentors for Chinese Visiting Scholars & Students to CSUN (2009-10)



Prof. Sheng Yuan of Central Conservatory performs at CSUN Recital



Prof. Carol Shubin and her mother Hilda guided Chinese scholars at Huntington Library



Chinese scholars at Chinese National Day Reception



Dr. Johnson & Dr. Su host Shanghai school principals at CSUN



Shanghai school principals with their mentors at graduation ceremony



Dr. Castallo & Shanghai school principals

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Edward Alfano, Art | 13. Hattar, Marianne, Health Sciences | 26. Kathleen Rowlands, Secondary Education |
| 2. Katherine Baker, Music | 14. Judith Hennessey, Marketing | 27. Louis Rubino, Health Sciences |
| 3. Warren Campbell, MPA Program | 15. Yanbo Jin, Finance | 28. Victor Shaw, Sociology |
| 4. Rick Castallo, Educational Leadership & Policy Studies | 16. Mack Johnson, Graduate Studies, Research, and International Programs | 29. Donna Sheng, Physics |
| 5. Cao Wei, Family and Consumer Science | 17. Diane Ketchie, Music | 30. Enchao Shi, English |
| 6. Paul Chow, China Institute | 18. Nick Kioussis, Physics and Astronomy | 31. Elizabeth Slator, Kinesiology |
| 7. Rick Castallo, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies | 19. Christopher Leu, MPA Program | 32. Kathryn Sorrells, Communication Studies |
| 8. Daniel Degrave, Management | 20. Mingfang Li, Management | 33. Justine Su, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies |
| 9. Bonnie Ericson, Secondary Education | 21. Deanna Murray, Music | 34. Yifei Sun, Geography |
| 10. Janice Friedel, Educational Leadership | 22. Mary Paquette, Nursing Program | 35. Nayereh Tohidi, Gender & Women's Studies |
| 11. Robert Gustafson, Film and TV Arts | 23. Dmitry Rachmanov, Music | 36. Richard Ye, Information System |
| 12. Tae hyun Kim, Journalism | 24. Deqing Ren, Physics | 37. ZhongGuo Zhou, Finance |
| | 25. Bronte Reynolds, Educational Leadership | |

A Rich and Colorful Experience

by Michelle Lao, China Council Scholarship Student



Michelle Lao in Chinese dance team

My first semester in Wuhan has been a very rich and colorful experience. I've been heavily involved with many school activities and affairs. I am part of a dance troupe and one of our last performances was at Xianning. We performed Shakira's "Waka Waka" at the 3rd Annual International Tourism Festival. It was a very exciting televised performance with an audience of more than 10,000 people. We shared the stage with many notable Chinese artists and talented foreigners. On Christmas Day, we performed "Jingle Bell Rock" with Santa Claus. Playing the part of Santa was a fellow Matador, Dale Chang. It was a spirited performance that spread much Christmas cheer. In addition, I made the school's basketball team, representing the International

Department. We had a winning season and remained victorious throughout. I also made my debut as a sprinter for their annual Sports Meeting. The Sports Meeting is a track and field competition that encourages integration of both international and Chinese students. It was a fun-filled event and we were able to defend a few of our titles.

To keep up with the fashion, my classmates and I modeled at a botanical garden wearing traditional Chinese chipaos. It was to showcase the exotic flowers that would be on display. It was a very memorable event highlighted in the Chinese newspaper. Ending the semester on an even higher note, Dale Chang and I did another collaboration, this time in the studio. Dale and I finished recording a children's book series. It was such an exciting process recording in professional studios with voice coaches and audio engineers. This year, we're looking forward to our album and book series debuting. Stay tuned for more.

The Usual & Unusual Experiences in China

by Dale Chang, China Council Scholarship student



Dale Chang and Michelle Lao in recording studio in China

大家好! Hello everybody!
As we prepare for the Chinese New Year here in China, I am able to reflect on the many great experiences I've had here. I feel extremely fortunate to have spent a year and a half in China, and I look forward to my final half year. My second year at Huazhong Normal University has been filled with usual (and unusual) experiences. I have come to appreciate these situations.

Most of the time these experiences are pleasant and sometimes I encounter things that I would not come cross back at home. For example, just recently I was asked to

record a series of children's English books. This includes reading and even singing. I am glad to make a lasting impact on China: young Chinese children learning English through my voice.

Besides these and other activities, I find myself very busy with school. I am attending regular morning language classes as well as afternoon Chinese history classes. I can see my spoken Chinese is improving, but unfortunately I forget a lot of Chinese characters. I'm hoping this next semester that I can improve on my Chinese reading and writing skills. I have had an amazing time studying here in China. There have been some difficult times, and there have been some great times. Although I don't know what next year has in store for me, I believe my time studying in China has given me a special edge on what my next step will be.

迷人的中国 *China, the fascinating country*

by Won Gi Lee 李元基, China Council Scholarship Student

Life in China has been very challenging and intriguing. I feel that I have become quite different from the way I was in Northridge, and I am grateful that life in China has helped me become a more mature person than before. Since I came to China, my Chinese proficiency has gotten much better, but unfortunately still not to the point where I



Lee has fun in China

could go on a famous Chinese television program such as 汉语桥 (Hanyu Qiao, a TV program where foreign students compete in Chinese) or pass the HSK Level 6.

Since I arrived at Zhejiang Normal University (浙江师范大学), my daily life has become very busy. I prepared for a speech contest for foreign students, was part of a team that went to Hangzhou to perform 梁山伯与祝英台 (Liang Shanbo yu Zhu Yingtai; a Chinese version of Romeo and Juliet) which was broadcasted throughout China, and many more activities at school. During our performance in Hangzhou, I met an anchorman named 小强 (Xiao Qiang), who is known to be famous in all of Zhejiang Province and won the National Golden Microphone Award. It was an honor to meet such a great and intelligent person right before our play was to begin, and I took a picture with him. He said, "Hello, nice to meet you" in perfect English! I was surprised and responded with, "It is my honor to meet you" and we laughed. He has a deep and rich voice which everybody loves, and I agree.

And the beautiful lady you see on the left is another anchorwoman I met, and she is also famous in China. I remember she said me, "I am your Juliet and you are my Romeo." I also had a lot of fun talking with two directors of the television program and Zhejiang broadcasting system. The next day, a whole group of international students went on a trip to 西湖 (Xi Hu; West Lake), which is located in Hangzhou and is very famous for its scenery. I have to say 西湖 is the most beautiful lake I have ever seen in my life. It was so big that just going across the lake felt like taking a ferry to another country.

I look back all these great memories in China, and I feel a little sad that I am only staying for a year, and have only five months left to enjoy my stay. I love China. The people are so nice, love to interact with each other and help each other even if they are not friends. All the difficulties I went through because of the cultural differences and language barriers have disappeared now because of the love that many Chinese people have given me. I got to put on an emperor's costume once; I enjoyed the attention for five seconds when we took several pictures. I am planning to apply for one more year of study in China because I have fallen so totally in love with China. The weather has gotten cold and the fever of the Chinese New Year celebrations has started. I just arrived in Anhui Province yesterday by train, and only Chinese people would understand the craziness of taking a train right before the Chinese New Year. I nowhere to sit on the train for twelve hours. That's right, twelve hours!!! But it was fun. I played guitar for everyone on the train and I talked to many people.

I give my deepest thanks to Dr. Su, who supported and helped me get to study in China while still always working hard for other students. Dr. Su, 我感谢您帮我这么多。没有您, 我不能过来中国学很多的事儿。(I am grateful to you for helping me so much. Without you, I would not have been able to come to China and learn so many things). I hope everybody has wonderful New Year and wish the Year of the Dragon will bring everybody a prosperous year full of happiness. 大家新年快乐, 万事如意, 身体健康, 恭喜发财。



Lee performs in Chinese drama in Hangzhou

To Shanghai and Back: Information Technology Collaboration in Action

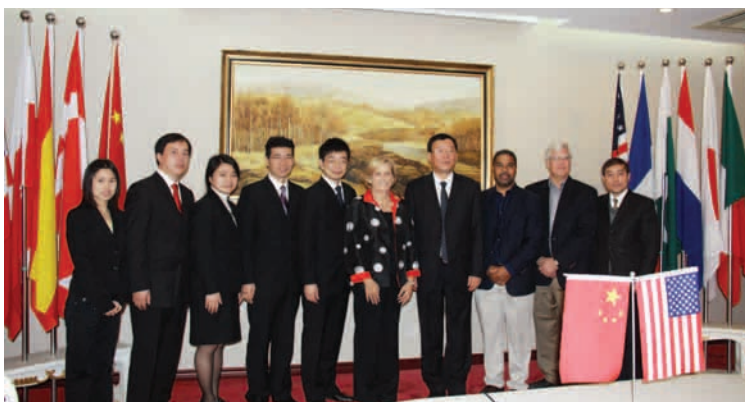
by Hilary Baker, Vice President of Information Technology

For many years, the relationship between Shanghai Normal University and California State University, Northridge has benefited from a steady exchange of faculty and student scholars between the two institutions. In November this exchange was expanded to include a formal collaboration between information technology units at the respective universities. A delegation from the Division of Information Technology at CSUN was hosted by Shanghai Normal University. The IT team was invited to visit SHNU following an extended visit to CSUN last spring by Qu Xueping from the SHNU IT Department.

CSUN's delegation consisted of Hilary Baker, Vice President of Information Technology and Chief Information Officer; Ben Quillian, Associate Vice President of IT; and David Levin, Senior Director of Academic Technology. This represents the first Information Technology international exchange for both universities. The three IT leaders were hosted by Dr. Gao Jianhua, Vice President of Shanghai Normal University, Mr. Gao Weixun, Director of IT at Shanghai Normal, and the staff of SHNU's IT Department. The visit culminated in the signing of a formal agreement to continue collaboration between our IT divisions over the next six years. During their visit to SHNU, Baker, Quillian and Levin toured IT facilities at both SHNU campuses with opportunities to visit their libraries, technology-enhanced classrooms, laboratories, video conferencing facilities, and campus museums. They learned about SHNU's network, their IT services, and discussed their user support and training services. The CSUN team was very interested to learn about some of the unique applications the SHNU IT staff has created, including their one-card identity service, information kiosk, and the library locker security system.

While at SHNU, each member of the CSUN team gave a presentation on an aspect of Information Technology at CSUN. Vice President Baker presented "Information Technology Organization, Governance and Planning at California State University, Northridge" to an audience consisting of university leadership at SHNU and the former

IT Director for the Shanghai World Expo of 2010. Associate V.P. Quillian presented "Information Technology Services: Supporting a Learning Centered University". Senior Director Levin presented "Academic Technology Services at CSUN" to an audience that included the Dean of the College of Finance and faculty and students from SHNU's educational technology program. Director Gao arranged for Baker, Quillian, and Levin to tour both SHNU campuses and also visit Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), a major research university in Shanghai where the CSUN team toured the IT facility and met with the SJTU vice director of IT.



CSUN IT delegation warmly welcomed by SNU leaders

During the visit the SHNU and CSUN IT teams worked out an addendum to the longstanding Memorandum of

Understanding between the two universities to build on the new focus on collaboration between the both universities' Information Technology organizations. The addendum outlines that every two years a staff member from SHNU IT will spend several weeks working within the CSUN IT organization to learn more about the CSUN IT organization and to share their SHNU expertise with CSUN's IT staff. Online video conferences between the two organizations will also serve as a foundation for continued collaboration on mutually beneficial initiatives. Vice President Baker expects that this collaboration will enrich the Information Technology organizations at both institutions as well as help identify ways that information technology can be used to further the relationship between Shanghai Normal University and California State University, Northridge.



CSUN IT delegation at SNU



Signing of formal MOU between IT leaders at CSUN & SNU

Training Educational Leaders from China

by Justine Su, ELPS and China Institute

In 2011, China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE), the international arm of the Chinese National Ministry of Education, and one of CSUN's education partners in China, sent three large groups of Chinese school principals and education bureau chiefs to CSUN for training workshops on American school reform. The China Institute and the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies played major hosts to these distinguished education visitors.

When asked what are the most important things learned in the U.S., the Chinese school principals cited the following: dedication and hard-working spirit of American teachers and principals; emphasis on developing critical thinking ability of students in American schools; a comparative

perspective on the similarities and differences in American and Chinese education and schooling; American educators' courage to face the tremendous challenges of school reform; and China and the U.S. share common concerns: lack of funds for education, low status and inadequate benefits for teachers, and instability in teaching force.

1. Associate Vice President Mack Johnson, ELPS Chair William De La Torre, CSUN faculty and local school hosts celebrate with the first Chinese delegation members on the successful completion of the training workshops at CSUN.
2. ABC news reports on Chinese delegation's visit to Vaughn Next Century Learning Center in Pacoima. The delegations also visited Holms Middle School, Pierce College, Mission College, Birmingham High School, and Valley Academy of the Arts.



(Right) CEAIE leader, Dr. Bo Jiang, and President Koester renew MOU in 2010



President Koester warmly welcomes the delegation



1.



Dr. Rick Castallo coordinates Chinese educator workshops



Dr. Delatorre presents diversity to Chinese principals



2.



Chinese principal delegation visits Valley Academy of the Arts



Dean Spagna speaks



First CEAIE Educational Administrators Delegation arrives at CSUN



在美国学习创新领导力

by 张朝晖, Shanghai Yangpu District



Zhang meets with Dr. Yvonne Chan at Vaughn

2011年11月21日，在上海市杨浦区区委组织部和教育局的精心安排下，我们“校、园长创新领导力”代表团一行赴美国加州州立大学北岭分校(CSUN)进行为期三个月的学习培训。代表团5人分别来自上海市控江中学、上理工附属中学、上理工附属小学和本溪路幼稚园。回顾在美国加州州立大学北岭分校学习培训和到加州旺恩新世纪中小学教育考察的经历，令人受益匪浅，感受颇多。负责此次培训的美方协调人是加州州立大学北岭分校教育学院教授，中国所所长苏智欣博士。在苏教授悉心的组织下，CSUN教育学院以美国人特有的热情和认真的态度，对这次培训活动进行了周全科学的安排，并制定了详细的培训方案。期间，我们共参加了12场专题讲座与座谈交流并且聆听了大学教育系的研究生课程。其内容涉及教育理论、中美教育比较、美国教育制度、创新教育、学校经费管理、特殊教育、教师评价、合作教学等多个方面。其在组织形式上采用理论学习、课堂讨论、教育考察、总结反思、论文汇报等，灵活自由，调动了培训者的兴趣。培训团队主要由教育学院、校外教育管理的专家组成，有课程改革与创新管理中心的主任，有特殊教育的专家，有中学的校长，更多的是教育学院的教授。他们有相对丰富的教学经验。很多的教授都有在中学担任教师和校长的经历，积累了大量理论和实践的经验，因此讲起课来颇为生动，更有针对性。教授们有的已年逾七旬，有的刚走上讲坛，也有大量的移民教师，但有一条是共同的，就是对教育的坚持执着，对讲课的一丝不苟。

此外，我们还参观了各个学段的学校，特别是到加州旺恩新世纪中小学 (Vaughn Next Century Learning Center) 蹲点观摩。旺恩学校是洛杉矶联合学区内的特许学校，现有学生近两千人，从幼儿园前至高中4年级。学生主要是拉丁后裔，多数来自贫困的家庭。但正是这样一所曾经濒临解散的学校，在华裔校长陈女士领导的管理团队坚持不懈地努力下，十多年来发生了巨大的变化。其转型为特许学校、入选“加州杰出学校”并授予“全国蓝带奖”。这创造了教育的奇迹。我们一行深入中小学课堂听课并就感兴趣的问题与管理人员和教师座谈，这更使我们身临其境地感受和体会了美国的教育制度、管理模式和课程特点。虽然对于美国的很多教育方法，我们以前在相关资料和网络中有所了解，但印象不深。此次眼见为实，体验深刻。总体感受是，美国教育自由而严谨、前瞻而深刻、理论探索和实践经验有机结合，最关键的是培养了学生自由健康的个性、探索创新的精神和参与社会、动手实践的能力。同时，在学校的教育教学中处处渗透着民主的精神和对个体的尊重，鼓励学生勇于质疑和发展批判性思维。当前，上海的新课程改革正如火如荼地推进，在理念和做法上很多东西借鉴美国，取得了很大的收益，但还要做细、做实，要立足现实，结合中国的特点、学校的实际，以此步步改进。中美虽然文化背景不同，社会发展存在差异，但不同的教育有其共同的目的，即都为培育学生健全的人格，夯实基础学力以及培养其社会适应能力、创造能力而努力。美国在教育领域深入而不懈地探索，积累了丰富的经验。它们的许多方面应成为发展中的中国教育的有益借鉴。



Chinese principals with Vaughn High School Administrators

Coordinating Conferences in China

by Jeff Zhang, Accounting and Information Systems

Dr. Yue “Jeff” Zhang was appointed by the Western Decision Sciences Institute (WDSI) as the Greater China (China/Hong Kong/Taiwan) regional coordinator for WDSI 2012 Conference to be held in Hawaii in early April. In this capacity, Dr. Zhang solicited research papers from Xiamen University,

Wuhan University, Chongqing University of Technology and Business, and China Academy of Sciences, and coordinated the paper translation, revision, submission, author registration, and supportive materials for US visa applications for the Chinese authors of these papers.

Comparing Chinese & American Education

by Lu Weizhong, vice principal of High School Affiliated to University of Shanghai For Science And Technology

I have been in the United States from Nov. 21, 2011 to Jan.15, 2012. Thanks to Dr. Justine Su's fine arrangements for school visits, I have gotten a general idea of basic education in the United States, through listening to the university professors introduce the American education system and their school system, visiting several schools (Valley Academy of the Arts and Sciences, a high school; Beachy Avenue Elementary; Vaughn Next Century Learning Center, a full-service, community-based, K-12th charter school; CHIME Institute, a K-8 charter school; Los Angeles Mission College, a community college) and observing & shadowing the principals and directors at Vaughn Next Century Learning Center.

What impresses me the most is that high school students in America have far less pressure to go to universities than those in China. In China, the only way for many students to succeed is to go to an ideal, top-of-the-line university, and as a result, the crucial college entrance exam is just like a large number of mounted and footed soldiers passing the "single-log bridge". This means that when a student is studying in school, especially when transitioning to high school, he or she begins to work overtime, go to all kinds of cram school, and take countless tests and exams in preparation for the college entrance exam.

Compared to their peers in China, high school students in America are much happier without the pressure of taking the college entrance exam. In the United States, the college application process is not at all so crucial. The universities enroll a student according to a standardized test called SAT. In addition, they take into consideration what elective courses the student takes, his or her participation in social/extracurricular activities that help develop interpersonal skills. What's more, "the college entrance exam", or the so-called SAT in America, is a standardized test held seven times a year. The students may, according to their situation, take part in a single, or several exams. The SAT scores are effective for two years; many American high school students in their junior year start to take the SAT test (in America, high school is four years), until they are satisfied with the results. And it's worth noticing the fact that doing "volunteer service" is an essential requirement for college admissions. The general requirement for a high school graduate amounts to more than 120 service hours for their four years.

Another reason that American high school students have less pressure to be successful in life is that American community colleges play the important role of buffering. In the United States there are no national universities, but states have public universities and two-year colleges which are also known as community colleges and are generally funded by the state. The tuition of community colleges is much lower, and the requirements for a student's academic performance are not very high—any high school graduate can go to a community college. Community colleges focus on helping the students develop professional skills, with which the students can directly obtain employment after graduation. Those who achieve high academic performance can apply to be transferred to a four-year university. Therefore, the community colleges not only open up a pathway for those students with less fortunate backgrounds, but also ease the pressure on high school students going to universities. Though similar vocational and technical colleges have appeared in China in recent years, the

tuition of these vocational colleges is higher, with little hope of its graduates getting employed, much less hope to go to a four-year university; this results in little success of China's vocational and technical colleges as a buffering role.

One of my most significant observations during my stay in America is that the school curriculum in China benefits from the overall teaching quality management; while in the United States, every student has the opportunity to choose his or her favorite subjects and the direction of his or her professional



Mr. Lu enjoys L.A. stay



School principals meet with computer lab teacher at Vaughn



Chinese school principals present a gift to Pandaland administrators at Vaughn

development with the help of the school counselor. The school curriculum lays great emphasis on cultivating the students' interest in study, hobbies, and talents, thus stimulating students' initiative to learn and a spirit of creativity. There is also a big difference in teaching methods in class. In China, the teachers attach great importance to basic knowledge and training so that the students obtain a solid and rich foundation, especially in science and math. By a striking contrast, the teachers in the United States focus on the training of the students' learning ability, creative ability and creative thinking; this helps to cultivate and expand the students' vision and active thinking skills, especially in the liberal arts. In the United States, the teachers rely on a combination of learning through abstract theory and through hands-on practice, using every means possible to help the student understand and "learn through doing". What the teacher does in class is to inspire, guide, improve students' self-study ability and practice ability, and above all encourage students to keep a unique, imaginative and innovative consciousness. In the American schools I've visited, a majority of the students have a sense of independence, creativity and active thought, and I believe this will help them to develop their ability to constantly absorb new knowledge. In China, however, by the constraints of the old traditional way of "teaching" and "learning", the teachers hold the view that "doing" is the purpose of learning, and the "doing" part of learning is what students

do after they graduate from school. In that case, the students have too little chance to put what they have learned into practice during study at school. It's generally believed in China that as long as the teacher teaches well and students learn well, students should be able to put that knowledge into practice in the future. But, contrary to expectations, the simple truth is that students in China, although armed with a solid educational foundation, have great difficulty in adapting to the "real world" when they enter society because of the detrimental constraints that their individuality and creativity suffered during their time in school.

Without a doubt, it is a long way to improving and developing better teaching methods. In China, the government is increasing its K-12 education funds year by year, and new curriculum reform is also under way in the field of K-12 education. At the same time, China is a country with an extremely rich historical context and culture, so it is not practical to copy too closely the example of other countries. In reference to my experience in the United States, it is better for us educators to first analyze the social and cultural differences between the U.S. and China, and then compare the pros and cons of each educational system. Only in this way can we promote our country's K-12 education in accordance with China's particular conditions in a stable and healthy way.

Vibrant Energy in China

by Justin Shenkarow, China Council Scholarship Student

Dear Dr. Su and distinguished fellow China Scholarship advisors, I am eternally grateful for the incredible opportunity to come study at Shanghai University in China. Shanghai is a wonderfully dynamic city full of bristling opportunities. There is a positive excitement in the air among the people of China and the country has a vibrant energy.

I have had the chance to visit some of China's most glorious cities. I traveled to Beijing and viewed the incredible Great Wall and Forbidden City, along with the Summer Palace and Temple of Heaven. I have also been to a beautiful coastal city, Qingdao. I was in the south of China in Guilin and Yangshou, which is a gorgeous city with stunning rivers running through it. I have

been extremely fortunate to have been chosen by Shanghai University to speak at a few of their events for international students. I have made friends with many of my fellow students and professors and am grateful to be exposed to such a diverse and brilliant group of people.

I am learning Chinese and love the language and the culture. Every day, I learn something new and further my educational pursuits and goals. The Chinese people are incredibly warm, kind and friendly. I hope to stay in China for more than one year and to continue studying in this incredibly vibrant country. I am extremely grateful for the chance that the China Scholarship Council has given me and I cherish it every day.



Justin with friends on the Great Wall



Justin with friends in China



Justin enjoying China

关于创造性人才培养的启示 by 曾国光, Shanghai Yangpu District



Principal Zeng smiles at American school site

当前，上海市教委正在进行“创新素养培育实验项目”，旨在培养学生的创造力。我校是这个项目的参与者。这次有机会到CSUN进修，我一直想看看美国的教育是如何培养创造性人才的。两个月过去了，大学教授的精彩讲座、美国学校的有序管理、尤其是这个国家的特殊教育、对残障人员的特殊照顾、对弱者的有效帮助，都给我留下深刻印象。这确实也是一个社会文明进步的标志。然而，在我们参观学校的过程中，几乎没有学校将学生创造性的培养作为学校的特色、亮点予以展示。难道学校不重视学生创造性的培养？若是如此，美国社会的创造性人才是如何成长起来的？综合这两个月来的所见所闻，虽然很少看见、听到关于学生创造性的培养，但是我却时时感受到这个社会给学生创造性的发展所提供的宽松氛围。以下几点印象深刻：

一. 平等的师生关系

我们参与的讲座、看到的课堂教学，都呈现出教师与学生的平等。教师不是权



Principal Zeng looks over a lab composition book

威，学生也没有觉得低教师一等。这也许正是美国文化：人与人之间真正的平等。因为这种平等，学生会自由表达自己的想法，不会因为顾及教师或同学而限制自己的思考。这样的学生充满自信，有自己的思考。

二. 积极的问题意识

在与学校教师交流，以及听CSUN教授讲座时，几乎每一个人都会说，有什么问题吗？如有问题，欢迎随时打断！一次这样的情况，我们会认为是谦虚，每次都这样，我觉得这其实是一种习惯，是一种文化。欢迎提出问题，也就是接受质疑，也就是认同存异：这也是创造性的开始。走在教室里，我们经常会看到这样的标语：What? Why? How? 教师在课堂上也会问：“看到这个现象（或结果）你会想到什么？”在提出问题及思考问题中成长的学生，是不会缺乏创造性的。

三. 自由的选择机会

不说这里中学课程的选择性，单单就是



Principal Zeng learns from Dr. Yvonne Chan at Vaughn

学生在升学过程中，无论选错学校或者专业，都有修正的机会。他们可以先工作再读书，可以边读书边工作，也可以中断读书后再继续。同时，尝试的机会成本不高，大学升学的途径很多。这给了学生真正发展兴趣的机会。有了自由选择的机会，可以找到自己擅长及感兴趣的方向。这样，创造性得以发展，个人成功的几率自然大大提高。

四. 对个性的尊重

在过去的每一次访问中，我能感觉到这个社会对个性的尊重。尊重个性、鼓励个性发展，正是创造性的源泉。在这里，有个性、有独特思维的学生更容易受到教师的表扬、得到同伴的认可。这本身也是一种文化。

很多人都批评美国的基础教育，但这样的教育能培养出比尔盖茨、乔布斯。不得不说，这里面还是有很多值得借鉴的东西。毕竟，对于社会发展，创造性人才的作用是无可比拟的。

多元文化的魅力平台 by 张纉, Xi'an Dianzhi University



Zhang with her mentor Dr. Bonnie Ericson

在中国所访学的日子，比我曾经预想的要紧张、丰富、有趣得多。色彩多样的文化艺术活动不仅让我这个国内的艺术“门外人”深深得在艺术的氛围中得到熏陶，同时也让我从另一个角度更多地认识我们的民族文化。“了解西方，是为了更好地认知东方”，这是我访学最重要的目的之一。在先后参观了由中国所组织的在CSUN的中国艺术家绘画作品展和位于洛杉矶的美国现代艺术展览馆之后，更让我领受到艺术世界的开放性和个性思维，也看到中西文化带来的思维差异。与此同时，我在这里教育学院旁听的教学法 and 多元文化等课程，也帮助我进一步了解美国教授的思维特点和敬业精神。虽然课程内容不同，但任课老师课前认真丰富的预备、课上热烈的小组讨论、以及对批评性思维的提倡和进深环节的启迪，都给我留下了深刻的印象，也为我日后的教学留下了丰富的可供借鉴的宝贵财富。在这里停留的时间虽然有限，但这里的一点一滴，都给我留下了深刻难忘的回忆。在这里，我第一次近距离地欣赏钢琴独奏会，第一次看到国际性高水平的大型露天音乐会，第一次参加国外同行的教学会议……有许多的第一次，虽不能一一提及，却都和中国所密切相连，和苏智欣所长的辛勤工作和大家周到的安排以及真诚的关爱分不开。在这里，不仅增加了我的阅历，拓宽了我的视野，也让我收获了很多的友情。这些美好将长久地伴随着我今后的日子。

美国小学印象——参观 Beachy Avenue School 有感 by Limin Ding



Ding presents at CSUN forum



Ding and other Shanghai principals meet with Dr. Chan



Ding and others visit Valley Academy of the Arts

这是一所以南美裔学生为主要生源的学校。孩子们因为家庭收入低，在学校享受联邦政府提供的两顿早餐和两顿午餐。孩子们看起来很有精神。这是我们参观的第一所美国小学，我们发现我们看到的和我们的想象相去甚远。

首先，美国的小学生并不轻松到整天在“玩中学”。美国教育家杜威为我们描绘了“玩中学”的美妙画面。我们想象中的美国小学生应该是整天玩个不停，没有作业没有考试，没有升学的压力。我们在Beachy Avenue School参观了从学前班、幼儿园班一直到小学五年级的所有教学班。每间教室里都有一张各科教学的标准，例如在一间教室看到阅读的一条标准：“评估新的信息，并用相反的信息来测试他们。”每一条都很具体，学到了就划一条斜杠，学生达成了再划一条相反的斜杠，成为一个叉，意味着达成。不仅小学一至五年级如此，就是学前班和幼儿园班都有相应的标准。最令我意外的是在一个以情绪障碍学生组成的特殊教育班，也有明确的学业标准，毫不含糊。从孩子们的练习本来看，虽然没有我们的学生负担重，但绝对不会很轻松，因为加州包括全美都有统一的考试来检验各校的教学质量。

其次，美国小学的教师非常辛苦。在美国的小学，原则上每个班级配备一位教师，其什么都要教。从早到晚，除了吃饭时间有兼职人员帮忙照顾，基本上都在教室。跟我们不同的是，老师们没有规定

的课表，可以自己安排工作进度，先教什么后教什么，只要完成学科标准就可以。教师们都有很高的学历，至少学士，大多硕士，不少博士。当然他们的硕博学位不少是以在职进修的方式获得。相比之下，我们的教师虽然没有那么多的课，但是，课程的难度、作业批改和考试的压力比较大。同样，我们的教师也有提升学历的要求和压力。

第三，每一个孩子都很重要。在美国访问的短短几天，有一个词的使用频率很高——“特殊教育”。孩子们如果不能参与正常的学习，那就会由专家进行鉴定。如果是特殊学生，那就会得到特殊教育。负责特殊教育的教师必须有相应的执照，工资待遇相对较高。美国很少有专门的特殊教育学校，几乎每一所学校都有特殊教育的班级。因为太辛苦，在Beachy Avenue School，我们看到特殊教育的老师只要上半天课。而相对学习障碍学生，同属特殊学生的天才学生的教育相对低调很多。陪同的教授解释：美国是民主社会，精英是不被认同的概念。因为精英很可能意味着超出大多数人，意味着独裁的可能。所以，美国的天才教育静悄悄。

半天的访问，印象最深的却不是以上三条。我无意走进一间女厕所，待出来才发现校长非常焦虑！原来，学校规定成人不可以进入学生厕所，旨在保护孩子，降低成人对儿童性侵害的可能。如此体验了美国的性教育，真是颇为意外！

Workshop: “Chinese Ways of Innovation”

by Yifei Sun, Geography

Professor Yifei Sun organized a workshop “Chinese Ways of Innovation” at Northridge (Oct. 6-7, 2011). The workshop was primarily sponsored by the US National Science Foundation.

The China Institute, as well as a number of other departments on campus, also provides partial support. Fifteen scholars in economics, geography, management, planning, policy research and international relationships from mainland China, Taiwan, United Kingdom, and US joined together and discussed the characteristics of Chinese models of innovation. They also discussed the strategic directions of research in this field. The participants are in discussion of further collaboration on potential projects in the future.



Professor Yifei Sun (first from right) with scholars at the workshop

中美学前幼儿班比较 *by Dan Li 李丹, Shanghai Yangpu District*



Li visits Dr. Yvonne Chan's office at Vaughn



Li and other principals visit Nathan's doctoral class at CSUN



Li at Vaughn with Dr. Chan and her grandchildren

美国人称小学中的学前班为Kindergarten。其中幼儿年龄为6岁，而6岁以下幼儿则进入独立的Preschool。在中国则是3-6岁幼儿统一进入幼儿园，小学则从一年级开始；这便是中美幼儿园最显性的不同之处。深入学校观察和比较后发现，其实隐藏在背后的教育理念折射的是不同的文化背景和社会制度。其最终体现的是培养什么样的接班人，以及如何授予每个学生描画属于他的华彩人生的能力，从而感受到属于每个人的幸福。中美学前幼儿班在很多方面有所不同，从课程设置、课标、作息、教学内容、教师安排来看均有差异。

中美学前幼儿班的不同之处

	美国	中国
课标	课标超前	按照课标
作息	按小学一年级	靠小学一年级
地点	小学	幼儿园
教学内容	学科	主题方案
教师	一教二助	二教一保

美国幼儿园---小学无缝衔接：美国的学前班和小学一年级的课程设置和作息安排基本一致。学前班幼儿一天要上7-8节课，没有午睡的时间；为了让孩子更好地适应一年级的州学科标准，学前班将

课标提前，让孩子接受更多的学科知识并加深难度，为的是更好适应一年级的学习任务；幼儿学习生活小学内，直接感受和体验小学生活，并且学生档案直接归口进入一年级班级。

中国幼儿园---小学近距衔接：中国的幼儿园大班只在下学期开始调整作息时间，从原先的1节学习活动逐步调整为2-3节；午睡仍保持但适当减缩时间；幼儿的主体性游戏继续以每周3次的频次开展；以主题的形式进行教学活动，严格按照课标开展各项学习活动；学习生活在独立的幼儿园内，只是在教学安排需要的时候去小学参观，从外围感受和体验小学生的生活。

利弊各异：

美国学前班均设在小学内部，因此与小学的衔接紧密无缝。学科学习、作息安排、课标提前、一教二助理的搭配都让幼儿能够很快融入小学的学习和生活。但由于课时安排多和课标超前，使美国孩子不再做主体性游戏，所以美国孩子的学习和生活比起中国孩子是更加紧张和辛苦。

中国学前幼儿班的作息时间兼顾学习、游戏和生活，而且不开展学科教学，不超课标学习，因此幼儿的学习负担相对轻松。但由于幼儿园课标与小学课标存在脱节现象，即幼儿园课标低、小学课标略高，加之幼儿园和小学各自为政，幼儿园教师不了解小学教学情况，可能存在教育脱节和重复现象，因此幼儿园和小学会产生某些方面的衔接断裂。

Visits to Chinese Universities, 2011 *by Zhong-Guo Zhou, Finance*



Dr. Zhou delivers a speech entitled "Initial Public Offerings in the US" at Chongqing Technology and Business University

had a busy year in 2011. In July, I attended the China International Conference of Finance organized by Tsinghua University and M.I.T. in Wuhan and presented a research paper there. During my stay in Wuhan, I visited the Business School of the Central China Normal University. I met with their dean and his colleagues and discussed possible collaborations between their university and CSUN. In November, I visited the School of Accounting at Chongqing Technology and Business University and delivered two speeches at the school's 50th anniversary celebration. In December, I visited the College of Finance at Shanghai Normal University and taught business classes to students in the "2+2 program". I look forward to visiting China again this year.

News from Beijing by Paul Chow, China Institute



Dr. Paul Chow

Paul and Vera Chow (Emeritus) were surprised by an invitation from Tsinghua University to invite their family of three generations to visit the Tsinghua Centennial Historic Hall (清华百年纪念馆) to honor their grand-uncle Zhou Ziqi (周自齐) for founding the Tsinghua School (清华学堂) in 1911. Tsinghua School was the first and only educational institute whose sole function was to prepare and to fund its graduates for overseas studies in the United States. It was later developed into an institute of technology and, more recently, into a comprehensive university.

Paul Chow had a meeting in Beijing with representatives of Haier, the largest Chinese exporter of China's products bearing Chinese brand names. Haier was represented by Dr. Wang Taoming, Senior Director of Haier Global R&D Strategic Cooperation, and by other department heads. Having originally come from Taiwan and done their graduate study in the same institute, Chow and Wang hit it off instantly. Chow learned that Haier is aiming towards developing into a major global enterprise in not only hardware production, such as TV and home appliances, but also in the software industry and services. Its on-going research & development projects include wireless and non-battery-operated TV, waterless washing machines and "green" residential living environments. To accomplish its goal, Haier is officially conducting a global search for talent. For example, 3 years ago, Haier employed 120 technical and management employees from overseas. Dr. Wang (a Northwestern University-trained engineer from Chicago) welcomes anyone who is interested in participating in Haier's ambitious global project, directly or in the consulting capacity, to contact him directly at wangdaoming@haier.com

Chinese Student Association is Growing Fast at CSUN

by Andrew Feng, President of Chinese Students and Scholars Association

CSUN CSSA was established in 2009. This organization is a social club that was formed by a group of ambitious and patriotic Chinese students and visiting scholars. Our mission is to enhance friendship and comradeship amongst members, to carry forward Chinese cultures, to promote greater awareness and appreciation for the latest developments coming from the globalized Chinese society, and to help new incoming Chinese students and scholars to become comfortably integrated within the American environment. This organization welcomes all Chinese students and scholars. We have sponsored and hosted many events for the Chinese students at CSUN, and provided many opportunities for them to make friends with each other. In the past few years, we held very successful "Chinese Cultural Night," which generated much praise from students and faculty at CSUN. In the new year of 2012, we are planning to organize more cultural events and student gatherings, which will present a new Chinese student image to the public. All CSUN students and scholars who respect Chinese culture and have interests that are

congruent with the mission of this organization will be encouraged to join us. Please contact Mr. Andrew Feng at (626) 283-1879 or e-mail: csunsa@yahoo.com or andrewfeng98@gmail.com for more information about the CSSA and its upcoming activities.



2012 CSSA Board of Directors

沉默的迪米特里 & 会说话的钢琴

by 徐迅, <http://blog.sina.com.cn/xuxuncom>

他坐下来，一点没有迟疑，敲击琴键，汩汩的声音泉涌般流淌出来，俄罗斯式的音符和高加索的敲击，全然展开。这是一个安静的周末夜晚，整个舞台空荡荡，只有一台雅马哈钢琴。他坐在那里，聚光灯照着他，安祥、平和、放松。音乐响起来，才知道这个头发稀疏的音乐家，是个钢琴诗人。他毫无保留地迸发出他的内敛的激情和蕴藉的力量，一架钢琴就是他的舞台。迪米特里·拉赫玛尼诺夫，不多见于报章书刊，在国内不算红，在外面也不算太热闹，他泰然自若的气质似乎很难成为聚光灯瞩目的热门人



Dr. Rachmanov at the concert

物。今天的媒体和观众都喜欢朗朗式的夸张、名流的逸闻趣事甚至香艳传奇。迪米特里显然缺乏这些。他文静从容，亲切优雅，悄然而至，抚琴而击。不闻嘈杂喧嚣，唯有琴音袅袅。有评论说他是俄罗斯音乐代表。这个标签很有意思：美国的琴师、俄罗斯的符号，世界艺术的定位和商品定位有点雷同之道。

其实迪米特里·拉赫玛尼诺夫一点都不俄罗斯。小时候在莫斯科格涅辛天才音乐学校学习，后在美国纽约朱利亚音乐学院获得学士和硕士学位，在曼哈顿音乐学院获得博士学位。地道在美国成长的乐手。他曾经师从于娜迪亚·莱森伯格、阿卡迪·阿罗诺夫以及亚历山大·艾德曼。在这些晃眼的名校和名师光环照耀下，他不红不行，不出名不行，但他确实又是平和低调的艺术家，没有把光环变成大名鼎鼎的招牌。和俄罗斯红遍世界的鲁宾斯坦、霍洛维茨、李赫特、罗斯特罗波维夫等等相比，他的俄罗斯色彩很淡了。《纽约时报》有评论赞誉他是一位“文雅而天才的钢琴家”。《比利时晚报》称他为“无可争议的音乐家”。他的“19世纪俄罗斯性格小品的艺术”音乐会《纽约时报》赞誉“给每一首作品带来丰富的色彩与神韵”。这些评语很雅致，但似乎不符合一个音乐家。

6月19日晚，迪米特里坐在深圳音乐厅，安静演奏，一言不发，只余微笑。也许他了解这个嘈杂的世界，有了美妙琴声，语言已成多余。及始，其铿然而作，热情四溢，演奏了柴可夫斯基的《两首小品》、谢尔盖·拉赫玛尼诺夫的《船歌》及三首《前奏曲》、

尼古拉·梅特纳的《两首神话故事》、斯克里亚宾的三首《练习曲》、一首《前奏曲》及一部《奏鸣曲》（两乐章），还有下半场普罗科菲耶夫的一部《奏鸣曲》等。他没有其他音乐家慢热的烘培，也没有矫情的脾气。他收放有度、张弛自如。乐声悠扬，每个音符都饱满而灵动。我在傅聪的独奏音乐会上也有



过类似的感觉。音乐富含那么多情感和思绪，点点六趟、滴滴溢起、渐渐充盈、缓缓沉浸。好的音乐其实会一寸一寸涤荡你的心灵，一分一秒洗濯你的世界。我们也许抗拒很多改变，但美乐的攻心之术从来没有缺位。乘着音乐的翅膀，我们御风而翔。评价说在国际钢琴界，拉赫玛尼诺夫以高深的音乐造诣和大胆探索大师曲目而著称。他曾举办了贝多芬、舒伯特和斯克里亚宾钢琴奏鸣曲音乐会。其间，迪米特里成套演出了这些宏伟乐章，并使用古式钢琴举办系列独奏会。

迪米特里现任加州州立大学诺斯里奇校园钢琴系主任，纽约州立大学、曼哈顿音乐学院、英国皇家北方音乐学院（英国）、上海音乐学院和北京中央音乐学院等知名学院的客座教授，是纽约曼哈顿音乐学院、芝加哥演艺学院和纽约州立大学长岛音乐学院的音乐教育家和大师班讲座专家。准确来说，他的身份应该是钢琴教育家，或可称之为老师。他们安心在校园教授钢琴，几乎燃烧了所有光亮。桃李成群，满园芬芳。他却默默站在他们身后，不会包装自己，当然也不会让艺术贬值。安静的夏夜，灯火霓虹，外面嘈杂喧嚣，音乐大厅里琴声袅袅。一个安静的钢琴诗人谢幕4次、加演2首曲目。他一言不发，微笑面对，深深鞠躬，努力描绘出最美的音乐诗篇。他努力让俄罗斯的音符留驻在中国南方的夜空。这一夜，他似乎很成功。



Dr. Rachmanov at the concert

Distinguished Alumni Award



Joan Chen 陈冲

A graduate of CSUN's Radio/TV/Film program in 1992, Joan Chen will receive the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award at CSUN. Joan Chen is an award-winning, internationally acclaimed actress, director, screenwriter, and producer. Among her many American film and TV credits are "The Last Emperor" and "Twin Peaks." She is the recipient of five Golden Horse Awards (the equivalent of Oscars for Chinese language films), including for best film, best director, best screenplay, and two for best actress.



Picture from "The Last Emperor"

Ambitious Collaboration with SMG

by Robert Gustafson, TV and Cinema



Dr. Gustafson with Leon Li in Shanghai

Professor Robert Gustafson, head of the Media Management area in the Department of Cinema and Television Arts and the Director of the CSUN Entertainment Industry Institute, was in Shanghai from January 11th to the 24th, 2011. While there, Gustafson met with the faculty of the Xie Jin Film and Television Art College of Shanghai Normal University, one of CSUN's sister universities. Dean "Ben" Bingxiang Zhao hosted Gustafson and the entire Art College faculty at a combined end-of-semester and New Years' party. The festivities included treasure hunts, raffles, numerous toasts, songs and trivia games with cash prizes. Dean Zhao and Gustafson toasted absent friends Dean Robert Bucker of the

Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication and Dr. Justine Su, without whom none of these wonderful relationships would exist. Gustafson won a small towel and a mysterious canned paste in a raucous raffle. Gustafson also met multiple times with Shanghai Media Group (SMG) Chief Director, "Leon" Yong Li, at his new Dongfang Television Station's headquarters in Shanghai's Pudong district to plan the creation of the SMG – Los Angeles Branch. Chief Director Li was a visiting scholar in the Department of Cinema and Television Arts at CSUN, where Professor Gustafson was his mentor.

In early June 2012, Gustafson will return to Shanghai and bring 6-8 senior-level television industry professionals to SMG to assist Chief Director Li in training SMG employees and the establishment of the L.A. branch office. In July/August, Li and several SMG executives will visit Gustafson in Los Angeles to see various television facilities and finalize space for SMG-L.A. The SMG-L.A. branch will first produce a Mandarin language entertainment news/talk program that will be distributed to Mandarin speakers throughout the world. Later, SMG-L.A. plans to also produce a variety show. In all of its shows, SMG-L.A. plan to use bilingual

persons as on-air talent and hopes to have CSUN alumni participating in both the creative and management areas. This is probably the first time that a China Institute visiting scholar has established an American office and professional facility.



Dr. Gustafson with Billboard

The communication of Apparel Design and Merchandising program between CSUN and Chinese Universities

by Dr. Wei Cao, Family and Consumer Sciences

In the summer of 2009, a group of faculty and students from the Family and Consumer Sciences Department at California State University, Northridge had a two-week long educational tour to visit some universities, research institutions and textile/apparel manufacturers in China. In the spring of 2010, two visiting professors, Professor Zhao Lv and Professor Baohua Tian from Xi'an Polytechnic University (XPU), studied in our department for three months. They offered two 4-week long workshops for the students at CSUN on "Illustration and Fabric Redesign". This was a good learning experience for the students and area faculty in Apparel Design and Merchandising (ADM). Professor Lv and Professor Tian held a fashion illustration exhibition in the Art Department galleries, which exposed our department at CSUN to the faculty/student work in the Art Department from XPU. After we discussed the similarities and differences between textile/apparel education in China and US, we presented our findings at the 2010 Southern California Consortium on International Studies. Through my efforts, CSUN established a sister-university relationship with XPU in 2010. XPU sent two students, Zhaoqing Wang and Hang Cui, to continue their undergraduate study at ADM since fall, 2011, one visiting student (Jing Liu) in spring 2012.

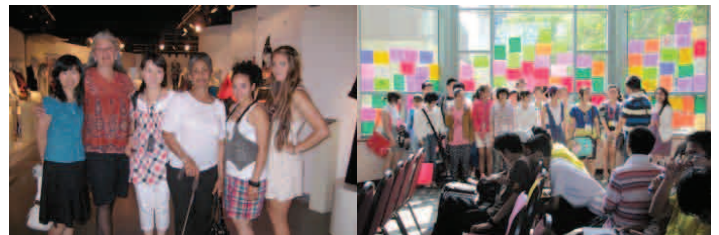
To maintain the balance between individualization and globalization in our program, it is necessary to build long term relationships with Chinese universities which have similar programs. In the summer of 2011, with support and funding from the CSUN China Institute, I visited Wuhan Textile University (WTU) to introduce CSUN, HHD College and the Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) department. We began a course-related collaboration with Department Head Wenhui Zhang and Professor Jun Yan of the Fashion Department under the sponsorship of China-Hemp Investment & Holdings Co., Ltd. The project focuses on increasing ADM students' knowledge and awareness of practices in sustainable textile and apparel, especially hemp products. From November 12th to the 13th, 2011 they participated in the Green Festivals in San Francisco: the world's largest, most established and trusted sustainability event dedicated to organics, sustainability, and social justice. The event continued with two inspirational days of speakers, fashion shows, eco-fashion exhibitors and special events. 10 pieces of creative fashion garments from Professor Zhang's team and 4 pieces of

innovative designs created by CSUN student Jessica Bley were shown at the event. Other students involvement included promoting hemp textile and apparel products at the Green Festival and Hemp Industrial Annual Conference through presentations and exhibitions.

In addition, in order to recruit more students to study at CSUN, I visited Cixi Yucai Secondary School and Shanghai Chuansha Secondary School during my trip to China in May of 2011. 168 faculty and students from CiXi Yucai Secondary School participated in a three-day, intensive English study program at Tseng College in July of 2011. It was an impressive learning experience for all the Chinese high school students. We are looking forward to their continued study at CSUN in the future.



FCS faculty and students at Donghua University



FCS faculty and students visit XPU

Cixi Secondary School students at CSUN



Prof. Warren, Prof. Cao, President Gao and ADM students at Green Festival

Cixi Secondary School students at CSUN

Miracles Happen at Northridge

by Gong Ting, Shanghai Normal University Exchange Student



Gong Ting with CSUN friends



Gong Ting with friends at CSUN

First, I have to say my life in America this year has been pretty awesome. I met amazing people and experienced amazing things and I am so glad they have come into my life. This study abroad experience changed my life, and helped me to discover more about myself. The first story I want to share is about a middle-aged lady whose name is Margie. I met her for the first time in a Ross store on a Tuesday, and we talked with each other in the waiting line. The week after that, on the very next Tuesday, we met each other again. And that day made my year in America. She gave me her phone number and invited me to her Christmas party, and then we became very good friends. She invited me to dinner at her house almost every week and to go camping with her family. We went to the Santa Barbara Beach, which was a wonderful, wonderful experience and a beautiful memory that I will keep forever. She is

like my American mom and her family is like my home stay family. But when I ask her why she has always been so kind to me, she told me that it is because she thinks I am attractive and sweet, and she just feels inside her heart that she has to take care of this Chinese girl.

The second 'miracle' that happened to me is on a 'fake' party, and I was the extra there. I met an old lady named Louise; we talked about everything and didn't even notice the time go by. After the 'party', we exchanged phone numbers and she said she was so glad that we met each other, and after a few days she called me and invited me to have lunch with her. We went to a small park after lunch, and later she showed me her beautiful handwriting at her house and I really love it. She said that nowadays, no one seems to care about handwriting anymore because everyone uses computers to print things. I told her I took a class

called 'The History of the English Language' at Cal State Northridge, and that this was the reason why I was so obsessed with the beautiful handwriting in the old English books.

So many unbelievable things have happened to me here, and I don't really know why these things never happened to me before. I think the main reason is because the people in America are so hospitable. I really appreciate what everyone around me has done for me; they have brought so much happiness into my life. Sometimes I feel like I am in a dream, but I realize that I have many pictures that remind me of all the amazing and memorable experiences. Many thanks go to CSUN, the international club, and all my friends especially Nika, Kirsty, Nick, Jaz and Hervert. I love you all, and I hope to see you all again!

Dual Masters Program in Educational Leadership

by Bronte Reynolds, ELPS



Dr. Reynolds with SNU leaders

For the past two years, California State University, Northridge (CSUN) and Shanghai Normal

University (SHNU) have been in the planning stages for the development of a 3-year Masters' Degree Program in educational leadership that satisfies the requirements for degrees in both institutions. Upon successful completion of the program, Chinese graduate students will have earned, concurrently, a Masters Degrees in Educational Leadership from both

CSUN and SHNU. The proposed program is entering its final stages of development, having gained approval from the Curriculum Committees at the Department and College levels. The final hurdle to cross is approval by CSUN's Graduate Studies' Committee,

which will receive the proposal for consideration at its February meeting. The proposal puts together a blend



Ye Ying enjoys Xmas with Dr. Reynolds' family

of existing educational leadership programs at both institutions and eliminates any redundancies, resulting in one program that meets requirements for state and federal accreditation and China's education

administration program standards.

Evidence of SNHU's commitment to the successful implementation of this program's development is reflected in the fact that officials of that university have enabled, at its expense, Dr. Bronte Reynolds, professor with CSUN's Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS), to travel to Shanghai to work with officials there to set the groundwork for the program. In addition, SHNU has sent its university representative, Secretary of Foreign Affairs Ye Ying, to CSUN this semester to serve as a liaison between the two universities. Ye Ying has been instrumental in working with Dr. Reynolds and the ELPS Curriculum Committee and their SHNU counterparts in the development of the proposal. Chinese students

admitted to the program will take the first and third years of the program at SHNU, and attend their second year at CSUN. The target start-up date is fall of 2012, which is contingent upon final approval of the program proposal and execution of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between both universities. SHNU is poised to begin recruitment early in the spring semester, and, while it is anticipated that number of students

in this first cohort will be small (3-5 students), the goal is to eventually maintain a full cohort of twenty students.

A Unique Opportunity by Bronte Reynolds, ELPS



Dr. Reynolds taught African Administrators in China

In 2002, when changing careers from leadership positions in K-12 education in California to instruction in higher education, little did I know that ten years later I would be at a university in Shanghai, standing before twenty school administrators

from eight African countries, lecturing on the characteristics of effective educational leadership. The path that led to this and other opportunities to become involved in Chinese schools was facilitated by Professor Justine Su, CSUN's Coordinator of International Programs and my colleague in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS) in the Michael D. Eisner College of Education. In March of 2011, I accepted an invitation to join the faculty at East China Normal University in Shanghai

as a guest lecturer for three weeks, to present the concept of transformational leadership in American education to students participating in that university's Masters Degree Program in educational administration. This unique group of students consisted of educators in various positions of leadership from Namibia, Tanzania, Botswana, Ethiopia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Sudan, and Libya. For three weeks, what was designed to be lectures about educational leadership in the U.S. quickly transformed into deep discourse about our countries' similarities, differences, challenges, and frustrations associated with the delivery of education in our respective countries. For this professor, the experience was as much one of learning as it was of teaching. We shared perspectives and experiences of governance, resources, funding, curriculum, student performance, labor unions, ethics, equity, and human rights. The overarching message was clear – education, globally, has much in common, and these future leaders in education, who so clearly demonstrated caring and compassion for their constituents and their future roles as educational leaders, have challenging times ahead.

A Great Chance for Academic Cooperation between CSUN and China

by Xu Lifan, Nanjing Univ. of Science & Technology



Xu (middle) visits CSU Chancellor's Office with Dr. Su and Zhang Ying

I am a visiting scholar from China majoring in business management at CSUN since July of 2011. I am so lucky, not only because I was so warmly welcomed from the first day I came here, but also because I have a great mentor, Dr. Daniel Degrauel. He received his PhD (with high honors) in Business Management at the

University of Grenoble II in France in 1994, and has shown great interest in competitive & corporate business strategy. He has since published many papers and contributed greatly to the development of the management field. He has kept close relations with many enterprises in the states which has enriched his practical experience. Since 2006, Dr. Degrauel has been an independent consultant for three small businesses (two of around 5 employees, one of 50 employees) in the Los Angeles.

During my stay, Dr. Degrauel and I discussed the differences between American and Chinese management values and learned much from each other. Dr. Degrauel invited me to be co-author for a paper at the 2012

Strategic Management Society Conference (SMS), which will be held in Guangzhou, China this December. A few days ago, he informed me of his interest in going to China to teach the MBA students at my university. As he is a professor with bountiful experience in both theory and practice in business, I do believe that our MBA students will benefit from his classes. There will be more opportunities in the future for cooperation between Cal State Northridge (CSUN) and Nanjing University of Science & Technology (NUST) where I am a professor of business management.

My Life at CSUN

by Li Tian, Shanghai Normal University

Last August I came to L.A. and began my half-year stay at CSUN. My initial impression of America was that the people here are so friendly. I was always welcomed and helped. As a newcomer, I felt quite relieved. It has been such a wonderful time. I spent my time going to classes and traveling around L.A. By sitting in on some of the courses related to Applied Linguistics, I have discovered many differences between Chinese and American teaching methods. Before coming to CSUN, I planned on doing some research in this field, now I believe I have learned much about my field, especially with the help of my mentor, Dr. Kathryn Sorrells, who is an expert on Intercultural Communication. Her classes offered me an opportunity to get to know the different perspectives of students from different cultural backgrounds. Students from all over the world can be found in her class, and they are more likely to accept cultures different from their own. There is no denying that L.A. is a melting pot of a variety of cultures, and Dr. Sorrells's class is a good example of multicultural communication in action. I was also impressed by the active and cooperative atmosphere in her classes.



Tian Li with mentor Dr. Kathryn Sorrells

the New Year. I was involved in all of them and derived a lot of excitement and fun from the festivities. On the weekends and holidays, Dr. Justine Su, the head of the China Institute, organizes visits to museums, libraries, and other remarkable places in L.A. for CSUN's Chinese visiting scholars. Thanks to her arrangements, the visits not only broadened my horizon but also helped me to further understand the local tradition. Traveling in my spare time also enabled me to enjoy many unique landscapes and to learn quite a bit about American customs and ways of life. Recording the vibrant

life in the U.S little by little with my own eyes and hands is unforgettable, and I look forward to sharing them with my relatives and friends back in China. My time in America has passed far too quickly, but I have gathered an abundance of new knowledge. Studying in America, staying with the local people, and learning about different lifestyles has been very helpful to me. I am sure that all that I have learned during these six months will live in my memory forever. Thinking back on all that I have experienced, all the beautiful memories I have made in this country, and my days at CSUN, I am grateful.

I have witnessed several important and joyful holidays in the U.S.—Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and

Research on Chinese American Women's Health

by Kun Li, visiting scholar from Jilin University



Li (3rd from right) enjoys a visit to LACMA

My research plan is about cervical cancer screening of Chinese American women. Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women. In the United States, the percentage of women diagnosed with cervical cancer varies by race and ethnicity. 68% of Asian American women reported having the lowest rate of Pap testing (64%) compared to Whites (84%). I think that a targeted approach is needed to adequately recruit Chinese American women into comprehensive studies of the multiple factors that contribute to their risk for cervical cancer and the factors associated with cervical cancer screening. Now I that have already finished my literature review and begun to design my interview guide, I will talk to my mentor in the coming semester and carry out my research plans.

Cultural Exchange at Vaughn by Jeannie Chen, music



Chinese elementary school students from Wuhan Experimental Foreign Language School at Vaughn Next Century Learning Center in Pacoima, 2012

On January 9, 2012, a group of 27 Chinese elementary school students from Wuhan Experimental Foreign Language School visited Vaughn Next Century Learning Center in Pacoima to exchange cultures and experience American schooling. This visit was facilitated by the China Institute at California State University, Northridge (CSUN). Upon their arrival to Vaughn, Dr. Yvonne Chan herself welcomed the Chinese students to her school. The Chinese students then donned colorful costumes and staged a performance that featured a variety of exciting shows, including dancing, singing, and reciting poetry. They were warmly welcomed by their American peers, and, after the performance, they all put on matching red sweatshirts and headed out to the classrooms to observe American teaching. There, they were given an opportunity to sit in an American classroom and experience what it would be like to study in America.

I traveled with the Chinese student group to San Francisco and Honolulu,

Hawaii as a chaperone and English tutor. I had the opportunity to interview 6 student representatives of the Wuhan Foreign Language School delegation, ranging from the 3rd-5th grades. The students expressed their thoughts and feelings after observing the American classrooms at Vaughn Next Century Learning Center. The majority said that they enjoyed the art work—drawing and coloring-book exercises. One student liked solving various Math and English practice problems the American teacher gave them. Another said that the most important thing she learned from her observation of American schools was to work hard at improving her English language skills, thus enhancing her comprehension of lessons taught in English.

The Chinese students were all amazed at how colorful American classrooms were compared to the classrooms in China. Several admired the rich variety of student work proudly displayed over every inch of the classrooms with very few visible white spaces in between. The layout in American classrooms is

also very different from that in Chinese classrooms. American students sit in groups of 4 per table, and each table is placed with a clear view of the teacher at the front of the room. Students in China sit in pairs at each table, and sometimes students cannot always see the front of the classroom. The student seating in American classrooms is also very flexible, and may change depending on each student's individual needs.

The Chinese students unanimously agreed that the American teachers at Vaughn seemed to possess a never-ending supply of kindness and warmth, and an immense reserve of patience for students with different learning abilities and special needs. This allows students who learn more slowly than others to catch up with the rest of the class. No student feels neglected. Whereas Chinese teachers may punish their students for answering questions incorrectly, American teachers gently encourage the students who need more help. The Chinese students believed the American method of teaching makes students feel appreciated and valued. Punishing students for their mistakes only makes them feel ashamed and confused.

Vaughn Next Century Learning Center has a very well-defined code of moral conduct. This code is printed and posted throughout the school's several campuses to remind its students to uphold common courtesy and behavioral rules. The Chinese students all marveled at how polite the American students were towards them; they showed the Chinese students where different facilities were located, such as the restroom and the lunch area. Usually in Chinese schools, students do not always know how to respond to a new student in their classroom,

and are not as socially outgoing as American students. In class, American students are not afraid to speak out loud in front of their peers, even if their answer is completely wrong. The Chinese students were very surprised at American students' confident and easygoing attitude, and remarked that the students at Vaughn all seemed to have such happy dispositions. On the contrary, Chinese students are required to stand up and answer the teacher's questions in a very strict, formal manner.

Asked if they would like to study in America in the future, 5 out of the 6 Chinese students answered "Yes!" Vaughn Next Century Learning Center

gave them a glimpse of a clean and friendly learning environment. Another reason is that America has many high-achieving students and is home to the world's most famous 20 universities. However, one brave 3rd grade student pointed out that if all the famous Nobel Prize winners come from America, China will have none! She says she plans to stay in China and study hard so that China can also have a Nobel Prize winner. I admired her fortitude for having such a unique and different point of view.

What was the most important impact of the Wuhan students' visit on the curriculum and instruction at Vaughn? For one thing, the American students

had the opportunity to interact with the Chinese students in their own classrooms. More importantly, after seeing the colorful variety of performances the Chinese students staged for Vaughn students, Dr. Yvonne Chan, principal at Vaughn, saw an opportunity to improve arts education at Vaughn. She proposed to extend the school day from 2:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. and add an arts program to the elementary school curriculum. This will be a new and exciting challenge for Vaughn faculty and students. For colorful photos of the exchange, please visit: http://www.csun.edu/china_institute/culturalExchangeAtVaughn.html.



The Chinese students reward Vaughn students for answering questions in an interactive game



Wuhan School students eat lunch together with Vaughn students



Vaughn School Principal Dr. Yvonne Chan welcomes Principal Yan

Niku Kashef's Art Lectures in China

by Gensheng Guo, Shandong Normal University

Professor Niku Kashef from the Dept. of Art visited and lectured at Shandong Normal University in the summer of 2011. She taught 5 days of photographic classes for the students in 2+2 program, gave 3 lectures to master degree students majoring in different subjects, and had productive discussions with the Chinese instructors. Professor Kashef was very friendly and able to pace her instruction based on the Chinese students' various levels of English proficiency. She prepared a full series of lectures on her photographic works, photographic concepts, photographic technology, and the history of photography. She demonstrated an extensive knowledge of contemporary art through her lectures. Even without a computer and projector, she was able to deliver exciting lectures to the students, using some chalk and a simple blackboard. She also took the

students outside of class to practice shooting photography. The students enjoyed her lectures very much. Professor Kashef met many times with the Chinese instructors and students to discuss possible future academic exchanges. She also visited the student dormitories, and shot many photos of the Chinese city and its friendly people. She visited Taishan Mountain and Qufu, Confucius' hometown, and many other places. The students, staff, and administrators at Shandong University expressed deep thanks to CSUN for sending Professor Kashef to them in the summer, and for her excellent academic lectures. Her visit marks a new turning point in the academic exchange between the art scholars in the two universities, following Prof. Guo Gensheng's visit to the Art Dept. at CSUN in the spring of 2011 and his photo art exhibition on Tibet.

Tales of Our Time: Two Contemporary Artists from China

by Meiqin Wang, Art



Curator Meiqin Wang, Associate Vice President Dr. Marc Johnson, artist Weng Fen, and China Institute director Dr. Justine Su at the Artist Reception (L to R)



The visiting artist Weng Fen giving his lecture, with the curator Meiqin Wang serving as the interpreter



Curator Meiqin Wang giving the gallery talk

The exhibition “Tales of Our Time: Two Contemporary Artists from China” opened as scheduled between Aug. 29 and Oct. 8 in 2011 at California State University Northridge Art Galleries with a great turnout. Several members of the CSUN International Educational Council and the CSUN China Institute Executive Committee, among many faculty and administrators from the university, attended the Artist Reception on Sept. 9th and viewed the exhibition.

The visiting artist Weng Fen gave three very well-received lectures on his art making process and ideas behind his individual artworks. Weng Fen delivered his first lecture in Chinese to a group of Chinese American and Chinese audiences. The event was sponsored by the Cultural Enrichment Coalition, a non-profit organization located in Chatsworth, CA. Weng Fen’s second lecture took place in the Art Department and the audience consisted of faculty and graduate students from the department. His third lecture was delivered for campus and community-wide general audiences in the Art Galleries, attended by an unprecedented number of more than one hundred and twenty people—many of them

had to stand or sit on the floor. The last two lectures were also delivered in Chinese with the curator Dr. Meiqin Wang serving as the interpreter. In addition, Dr. Wang gave a Gallery Talk on Monday, Sept. 12th, which was also attended by more than one hundred and twenty audiences. Several professors and teachers from local high schools brought their entire classes to see the exhibit and learn about what was happening in China. It was a great opportunity for understanding contemporary Chinese art and the ongoing social transformations in China, as said by many.

“Tales of Our Time: Two Contemporary Artists from China” presents about forty pieces of photographic and video works created by Chen Qiulin and Weng Fen at the beginning of the 21st century—a decade that has witnessed the dramatic movement of urbanization and modernization of the Chinese world. The two artists have taken as their subjects the ongoing transformation of Chinese society and the resulting impact on individuals, families, communities, villages, cities, landscapes and skylines. Their artwork documents the loss, confusion, excitement, and aspiration that Chinese people have

experienced as they negotiate their way through a fast-paced new world.

Coming from observation, experience, and reflection of the most relevant reality of contemporary China—urbanization and its disparate effects—Chen and Weng’s works invite conversation and contemplation upon a changing China and how people interact with their living environment. Their works depart from the majority of contemporary Chinese art circulating in the West since the 1990s that centers on stereotypical political icons or recognizable traditional images. Individually, Chen and Weng depict unprecedented transformations of China from distinctive perspectives and each artist creates epic images in expressing their perceptions of urbanization in progress.

The exhibition was the product of collaboration between Dr. Meiqin Wang and her students in two Exhibition Design courses offered by the Art Department in every spring semester. In addition, the exhibition catalog included two critical essays contributed by two senior art history students who took one of the Exhibition Design courses.

2012-2013 China Scholarship Council Award Program

Undergraduate and graduate students in all fields of study are invited to apply for up to four awards from the China Scholarship Council to study any selected subject matter in one of the best institutions of higher learning in China. The Chinese government scholarship will cover all tuition and living expenses for the awardees to study in China for the entire 2012-2013 Academic Year.

Twenty-seven CSUN students have received these prestigious awards in the past 12 years to study in China in order to further their understanding of the Chinese culture, language and traditions as well as their knowledge in a specialized area. They have studied at the Beijing Film Academy, Shanghai Normal University, Nanjing Normal University, Peking University, Qinghua University, Sichuan University, Central Academy of Fine Arts, Central Theatre Academy, Tianjin Foreign Language University, Shanghai Fudan University, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, Northeast Normal University, Wuhan University of Science and Technology, and Central China University of Science and Technology, Central China Normal University, Shanghai University, Zhejiang Normal University, and Southwest Jiaotong University.

Applicants should submit a written proposal of no more than three double-spaced pages, outlining the following: purposes and rationale for the proposed study, intended outcomes or achievements and their significance to CSUN's China exchange programs, and description of

previous knowledge in Chinese language and culture. A single page resume of education and relevant experience should also be included. After a preliminary review, selected candidates will be invited to complete special application forms from the China Scholarship Council. A word file containing the application proposal and resume must be submitted to the Chair of China Institute Review Committee, Dr. Harold Giedt, via e-mail: harold.giedt@csun.edu no later than March 15, 2012. Two recommendation letters from each applicant's faculty should also be e-mailed to Dr. Giedt by the deadline. A four-person committee will review all applications and make recommendations to the China Institute Director and the Executive Committee. Selected applicants will then be forwarded to the Chinese Consulate General Education Section and China Scholarship Council for further review. Final decisions regarding awards will be announced late in the spring or early in the summer of 2012.

Upon their return from China, awardees will be expected to make a formal presentation to the campus on their experiences in China as part of the China Institute Lecture Series. Applicants are encouraged to seek general information and guidelines related to this competition from the China Institute by e-mailing Dr. Giedt at harold.giedt@csun.edu, or Dr. Justine Su at zsu@csun.edu.



Ambassador Zhang with 2010 China Council scholarship students (including 6 from CSUN)



2011-12 CSUN CSC Scholarship Students - Michelle Lao, Won Gi Lee & Justin Shenkarow

Recipients of Chinese Government Scholarship Council Awards



2012 CSUN students receive CSC scholarships at Chinese Consulate General



CSUN Administrators With Chinese Consuls and Former CSC recipients

1999 – Angus McNelis (film studies), Beijing Film Academy

2000 – Bernard Forster (education), Shanghai Normal University

2001 – James Lo (film studies), Beijing Film Academy

2001 – Oliver May (music), Nanjing Normal University

2002 – Jennifer Lew (art), Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing

2002 – John Greer (English), Sichuan University

2003 – Songkrant Sanlimsuwan (film studies), Peking University

2004 – Clayton Koenig (linguistics), Peking University

2005 – Sean Hill (theatre), Central Academy of Theatre Arts

2005 – Patric McInnis (theatre), Central Academy of Theatre Arts

2006 – Kimberly Moultrie (health science), Tianjin Foreign Studies University

2006 – Daniel Galimberti (business), Shanghai University of Finance and Economics

2008 – Matthew Myers (finance), Shanghai University of Finance and Economics

2008 – Dara DiGerolamo (journalism), Shanghai Fudan University

2009 – Susan Tang (health science), Central China University of Science and Technology

2009 – Danielle Cabello (English), Northeast Normal University

2009 – Lisa Farber (theatre), Central Theatre of Academy in Beijing

2009 – Don Duprez (anthropology), Wuhan University of Science and Technology

2010 – Karene Danielian (finance), Shanghai University of Finance and Economics

*2010 – Kelley Friedland (health science), Huazhong Univ.of Science and Technology

2010 – Areeya Tivasuradej (geography), Southwest Jiaotong University

2010 – Dale Chang (teacher education), Central China Normal University

*2010 – Lisa Farber (theatre), Beijing Language and Culture University

2010 – Matthew Myers (finance), Qinghua University

2011 – Michelle Lao (Kinesiology), Hua Zhong Normal University

2011 – Justin Shenkarow (MBA), Shanghai University

2011 – Won Gi Lee (Language), Zhejiang Normal University

(*Could not participate because of other commitments)

China Institute Outstanding Contribution Awards

1997 – Dr. Liangkang Lu	2006 – Dr. Christa Metzger and Shari Ramson
1998 – Dr. I-Shou Wang	2007 – Dr. Chao Chen and Dr. Mingfang Li
1999 – Dr. Paul Chow and Dr. Tung-Po Lin	2008 – Dr. Warren Campbell and Dr. Christopher Leu
2000 – Dr. Mack Johnson	2009 – Mrs. Mei Wu, Mrs. Yihlan Shen Yuen, and Mr. Li Yaosheng
2001 – E Xuewen, Dr. Harold Giedt, & Dr. Elliot Mininberg	2010 – Ingrid Yin Ye and Wei Wang
2002 – Angela Lew, and Dr. Yvonne Chan	2011 – William Taylor
2003 – Dr. Ellen McFadden, Dr. Lou Rubino	2012 – Katherine Ramos Baker
2004 – Dr. Kwang-nan Chow	
2005 – John Charles	

Recipients of China Institute Faculty Development Grants (2010-2011)

Dr. Cao Wei & Allen Martin, Dept. of Family & Consumer Sciences

Dr. Meiqin Wang, Department of Art

Dr. Richard Horowitz, Department of History

2012-2013 Faculty Development Grants

Faculty at CSUN with an interest in China are invited to apply for initial seed money from the China Institute to start a project in their discipline that advances the field of China Studies or promotes long-term exchange and collaboration for faculty and students. Applicants should explain how this grant may stimulate larger and longer range projects. There will be two grants of \$1000 each, which can be used to support travel expenses for faculty's visit to China to conduct their projects.

Applicants should submit a written proposal of no more than three double-spaced pages. It should cover the nature and purpose of their project, how they intend to carry it out, how it may help CSUN students or our collaborative relationship with Chinese institutions, and

how the funds will be spent related to their travel to China. Additionally, a one page resume highlighting relevant experiences must be included. A word file containing the proposal and resume must be submitted to the China Institute Review Committee Chair, Dr. Harold Giedt, via e-mail: harold.giedt@csun.edu, by March 15, 2012. A China Institute Grant and Scholarship Review Committee will review all applications carefully and make recommendations to the China Institute Director and Executive Committee. Decisions on awards will be announced by May 1, 2012. Grant recipients are expected to provide written reports on their grant activities to the China Institute by June 30, 2013. Faculty interested in further information regarding these grants may contact the China Institute by e-mailing Dr. Giedt at harold.giedt@csun.edu or Dr. Justine Su at zsu@csun.edu.

2012 China Institute Outstanding Contribution Award



This year's Outstanding Contributions Award Recipient is Katherine Ramos Baker, Ed.D., Professor of Music and Conductor of the CSUN Women's Chorale, which visited and performed in China in the summer of 2011. They staged a series of exchange concerts with sister universities in China and participated in a cultural tour of historically

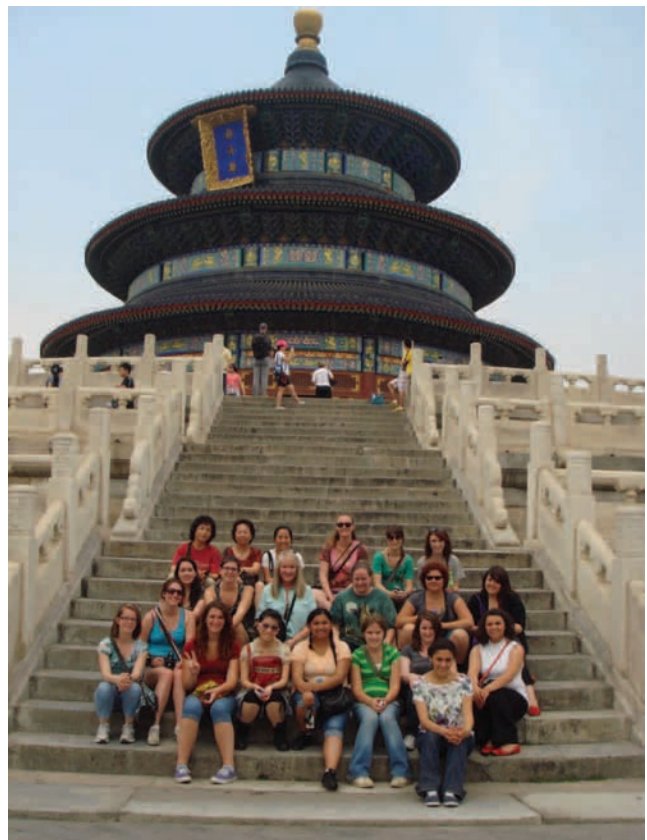
significant places in Beijing, Nanjing, Hangzhou and Shanghai. It was the work of many hearts and many hands: Eleven days, Seven Concerts, and Many, Many New Friends. The following is a summary by her of this extraordinary experience, which is truly what she calls "an incredible miracle."

"I have given this article two very long titles for two very good reasons: the first title describes what we did; the second, the great care and emotional investment of students, staff and faculty in both of our great countries. There are not enough words to express the multitude of feelings, experiences, and the overwhelming generosity of our hosting sister universities during our tour of China in June 2011. Whatever the circumstance, we were greeted and hosted as honored guests, and treated with the care that is usually reserved for close family. The Women's Chorale will remember and cherish this exchange of music and this gift of new places, new experiences, and new, dear friends.

In addition to our seven exchange concerts, we also saw/experienced:

- Beijing: Tiannamen and the Forbidden City; Cloisonne Factory; The Great Wall;
- Nanjing: Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Mausoleum and Confucius Temple;
- Hangzhou: Lung Ching Tea Factory; The West Lake;
- Shanghai: International Arts Festival; Shopping and Eating in Old Town; Shanghai TV tour; Boat Tour on our last evening.

Women's Chorale members include: Anna Avetisyan; Araksya Avetisyan; Nina Bowker; Jeannie Chen; Lauren Duplechan; Rebecca Gever; Leatrice Innocent; Laura Jackson; Erin Law; Rebecca Lee; Gigi Mo; Melissa Nixon; Judi Reynolds; Grace Shaffer; Melissa Sison; Brooke Tittinger; Brittnee Walsh; Kaitlyn Wolf; and Natalia Youssef. The CSUN Instructionally –Related Activities Board and The Mike Curb College of Arts, Media and Communications provided the major funding of this tour. Each student paid a travel deposit, paid for university travel insurance, paid all passport and visa fees, tips, and anything additional during the tour. Each of our sister universities subsidized parts of our visit; Shanghai Normal University supported our three days in Shanghai. Here is a partial list of those who made the tour a special experience: CSUN: travel arrangements were made through Jackie Zhuang (CSUN alumna) of Mass Co. Travel; Dr. Justine Su made all of the contacts with our sister universities; Tseng College International Programs & Business Operations Director, Lih Wu and adult daughter Melissa Wu, were official chaperones and translators; Jeannie Chen was our tour accompanist. President Harry Hellenbrand, Vice-President Mack Johnson, MCCAMC Dean Wm. Robert Bucker, and Music Dept. Chair Elizabeth Sellers carried the burdens and joys



CSUN students at Temple of Heaven in Beijing

of insuring safety and well-being of all on the tour. We also received great staff support: Music Department (Jill Price, Linda Gray); MCCAMC Dean’s Office (Laila Asgari , Frances Ruck , Donna Stone);The Office of Insurance and Risk Management; and Accounts Payable (Cynthia De La Fuente). Other support includes: Professor Barry Cleveland (orientation materials); Harmony Ji (Chinese pronunciation coaching); and Jan Sanborn (accompanist coaching).

In China, the CSUN Women’s Chorale staged 7 joint concerts: Concert #1 at University of International Business and Economics, Beijing, hosted by Dean Libo Fan of the College of Economics; Concert #2 at Peking University sponsored by President Weifang Min; Concert #3 at Nanjing University of Science and

Technology coordinated by Director Chongkai Sun and Ms. Jie Wang of International Programs Office; Concert #4 at Hohai University, Nanjing sponsored by Dean Yang Zhang, Associate Dean Qun Wang and Associate Dean Haiwei Zhou of Business College; Concert #5 at Nanjing University of the Arts coordinated by Director Bufeng Cao of International Programs and Dean Ruqun Mi of the School of Music; Concert #6 at Zhejiang Vocational Arts Academy sponsored by Professor Mingzhi Huang, Chair of the Department of Music; and Concert #7 at Shanghai Normal University hosted by President Jianfei Lu, Dean Li, and Associate Dean Shi of the Music College. The Women’s Chorale and I are deeply grateful for the work of many hearts and many hands by our colleagues here and in China, for their model of hospitality, thoughtfulness, and encouragement.”



1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10		

1. First Concert – University of International Business and Economics, Beijing
2. Peking University-Student Ensemble
3. Hangzhou – Zhejiang Vocational Arts Academy
4. International Arts Festival, Shanghai Normal University
5. Nanjing – Nanjing University of the Arts
6. Nanjing – Hohai University
7. Nanjing – University of Science and Technology
8. Hangzhou – Lung Ching Tea
9. The Great Wall
10. The West Lake – Rain and the Lady of the Lake

CSUN Women's Chorale's Concert Tour to China, Summer 2011



China Institute Website

http://www.csun.edu/china_institute/

Dr. Meiqin Wang and Mr. Naifang Zeng have created this new website within CSUN's network for the China Institute. They are working hard to maintain and update it with rich information on our various exchange and collaboration programs with China. You can send relevant stories and photo essays to Dr. Wang at: wmeiqin@gmail.com.



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